VIEWS

Commander's Corner **Displaying Core Values at JTF-B**

By Lt. Col. John Brainerd **AFFOR**

Integrity first, Service before self and Excellence in all we do.

These are not just words to memorize in basic training or at formal schools, but are our Air Force Core Val-

They set the common standard for our conduct. They remind us of what it takes to get our mission done, whether we're in the states or serving abroad.

They apply to all members: officer, enlisted, and civilians. Being a member of the Air Force, and all services, is a 24-hour a day commitment. Core values inspire us to do our best all the time, no matter how easy or difficult it may be, regardless if someone is or isn't watching us.

Core values are a common bond among all comrades in arms, no matter what service we are in. They may be called different names, and each service may have different numbers of values, but in the end, all are about the same. They are for us to live by, to honor, and to cherish. Each service has different and unique capabilities and all combine to get the mission accomplished.

Integrity First. This is the willingness to do what's right, even when no one is looking. Integrity is a character trait and the basis for trust.

It also covers several moral traits that are indispensable in service to our country. These include courage, honesty, responsibility, accountability, justice, openness, self-respect, and humility. All combine to make us the warriors that we are, help us to follow orders, and to

Service Before Self. Our professional responsibilities and duties take precedence over our personal desires and lives. Some of the characteristics of service include rule and order following, respect for others, discipline, self-control and faith in our system. I believe that this is the core value that all members of Joint Task Force-Bravo exemplify the most. Serving in this restricted-remote assignment truly epitomizes "Service Before Self."

Excellence In All We Do. We all must continually strive to improve processes, products, and ourselves. Continuous improve-

ments and innovations are required to carry us into the future. This includes product/service excellence, personal excellence, community excellence, resource excellence and operations excellence. How many times have we asked why something is done the way it was and heard, "That's how its always been done." Sometimes the old way is the best, but we must ensure to do things the correct and most efficient way possible. Do it right the first time and every time. Serving on a Joint Task Force is a unique op-

portunity where we can learn about our friends' missions and values. It's not a place to forget or hide our values, but a place to step forward and represent our services.

Gen. Michael Ryan, the Air Force Chief of Staff, noted this about core values: "We must practice them ourselves and expect no less from those with whom we

Let's all serve proudly at Soto Cano!

Air Force leaders send their holiday greetings

By F. Whitten Peters and Gen. Michael Ryan Secretary of the Air Force and Chief of Staff

The year 2000 is rapidly drawing to a close and, as they have for so many years, America's Airmen are proudly and professionally performing vital missions all around the globe and here at home.

From the Balkans to Southwest Asia...from East Timor to Mozambique — from the missile silos in North Dakota to the training fields of Texas, and in more than 150 nations this year, America's Air Force-Regular, Reserve, Guard and Civilian — serves faithfully, providing security for our nation and defending its freedoms.

You, America's Airmen, are the foundation of our force — smart, sharp, loyal and tough. No one comes

This holiday season gives us time to pause and reflect. First in our minds is a deep and abiding sense of appreciation for the service and sacrifice that you and your families make. We are proud and honored to serve

We wish you and yours the happiest of holidays and the very best in the New Year.





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Chaplain's Corner

STATES OF

Taking a spiritual inventory

By Chaplain (CPT) Arleigh von Seggern JTF-Bravo Chaplain

A few years ago, on New Year's day, my wife and I woke up late and decided to take a stroll around the town where we served. We stopped in at a pharmacy, and visited one of our congregational members who worked there. She was on her knees behind the counter, doing inventory of tobacco products, which was required for the state. It was a good day for that, business was nonexistent and these people could take inventory undisturbed.

They were taking inventory as part of their jobs...seeing what they had or didn't have on hand. In many ways, we do that at this time of year. This is a convenient time to look back at the year past, and take stock of what went good, what we accomplished, as well as what did not go so well and what we failed to accomplish. Based on these self-assessments, we then have the opportunity to make some decisions.

A great number of people will make their "new year resolutions." For instance, if you take inventory of yourself and decide you are a few pounds over weight, and you resolve to lose those few pounds, don't be surprised if it is not as easy as it sounds.

A deception is that I can start my resolution "tomorrow," but "tomorrow never comes" for when it becomes the next day, tomorrow is just another day further off into the future. If you decide to start something, remember now is the time to initiate it.

It is not easy to change patterns.

A Yale University study indicated that for you to change a habit, or to form a new one, you will have to do something on the average of 30 times for it to become a habit.

A good example may be the person who decides to spend 15 more minutes in prayer each day. It may seem easy for two or three days, but if you can keep doing it for 30 days, there is a good possibility that you will continue this all year long.

If you decide on a resolution for 2001, I wish you

MEDRETE provides training, medical aid to natives

By SPC Jeremy Heckler Iguana Editor

Getting adequate medical care is a difficult proposition for many Hondurans who live in places where there are no roads and no hospital nearby. It is the medical support of Joint Task Force-Bravo that assists with some of their needs.

Air Force personnel from the 90th Medical Group in conjunction with JTF-Bravo's MEDEL performed these duties as part of a MEDRETE exercise Dec. 4 through 14

"This is an opportunity to practice training and deployment training with the ability to provide human relief missions," said CPT Joshua Keesal, MEDEL company commander.

In the MEDRETE's base camp at Catacamas, Honduras, patients were treated for their aches and pains, received immunizations, dental care, and received an eye check. The medical team also distributed eyeglasses to those who needed them.

"This has been really positive," said Capt. Shannon Hancock of the 341st Medical Group. "This is a once-in-a-long-time experience because I get to practice tropical medicine and the people are uniformly grateful."

At the village of Tikkarya, deep in the Mosquito Coast of Honduras, medics brought instant relief for many of the villagers.

"This is a different culture than many Hondurans know about where many of the people don't even speak Spanish," said COL (Dr.) James Martin, MEDEL commander.

"This is the most primitive area we have been to and one of the most inaccessible," said Martin. "There is a dramatic need for services and care."

"We give preventive health education in conjunction with the Honduran ministry of health," said CPT Mike Brumley, MEDEL. "The Ministry of Health provides doctors and works as an equal partner supplying med-

ical personnel and performing health education, or we won't come."

"Dr. Ricardo Avilan worked with local health officials on where to focus treatment, and the Ministry of Health then selected the high priority areas," said Martin.

The medical personnel treated many cases of skin disease and de-worming as well as removing teeth.

"We are treating mostly acute conditions such as rashes or rotten teeth," said Brumley. "We just can't manage chronic injuries such as diabetes or cancer in one day."

In addition to treating medical cases, personnel at Tikkarya distributed medicine and dental care products to the villagers.

The medical team also gained a lot of experience about deploying.

"This provided realistic training for operational readiness," said Maj. (Dr.) William Catelli, in charge of the medical group's mission to Honduras. "Our training usually consists of going to Camp Bullock (Texas) and working on mannequins. Here you're actually doing a job and helping people by providing services they would never be able to get or even afford."

Catelli said that the team not only had to concentrate on helping patients but also on the logistics of moving the medical team to multiple sites on the same day.

the medical team to multiple sites on the same day.
"You can never over-prepare," said Staff Sgt. Rick
Tapnio, a pharmacist with the 90th Medical Group. He
added that the experience made him wish he spoke
Spanish better.

"We learned a lot about how to do a lot with a little," said Capt. Monica Ser-



Photos by SPC Jeremy Heckle

SPC Adriana Aldapa, ARFOR, translates the doctor's instructions to a mother during a medical examination in Catacamas, Honduras, as part of a MEDRETE.

rano. "We've seen a lot of diseases that we just don't see at home. We treated a lot of sick little kids."

"I've been on three of these, but this is the first time in Central America," said Master Sgt. Duane Elliott, noncommissioned officer in charge of the pharmacy. "Seeing all this makes you appreciate how good we have it at home because most of them don't have shoes or clothes. Yet even with all that they seem happy."

"My favorite part is surgery," said Brumley. "It is really gratifying, because you quickly fix something. If there is a pain in a tooth, you pull it and there isn't any more pain."

Overall, the group treated 3,226 patients, 734 dental patients and immunized 990 people. The group also passed out 413 pairs of glasses.

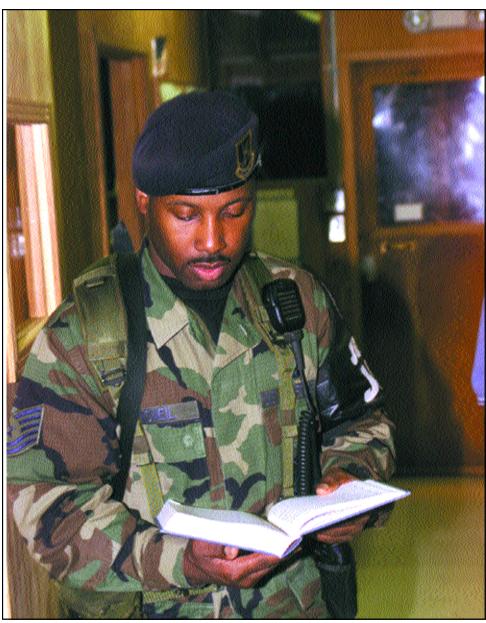
The most important part of the trip, however, could not be quantified in mere numbers, but in the many lives touched by the doctors and medics.



Master Sgt. Duane Elliot searches for the proper medication for a villager in Tikkarva.



Maj. (Dr.) William Catelli, 90th Medical Group examines a patient's teeth in Tikkarya as SGT John Collins of Company A, 1st Battalion, 228th Aviation Regiment assists.



Tech Sgt. Jeffrey McNeil of Joint Security Forces sings along during the candlelight vesper ceremony held at the chapel Dec. 24.



1LT Kristine Hartz dances the night away at the ARFOR Christmas Party held Dec. 17 at the Rally Point on base.

The Spirit of



A group of carolers serenaded airmen in Air Force Village Christmethrough Soto Cano, spreading songs and cheer to Joint Task Force

By 1st Lt. Kim Garbett Public Affairs

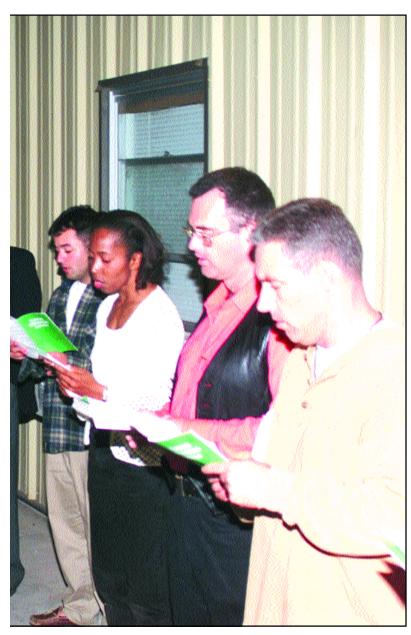
Feliz navidad!and visions of piñatas danced in their heads... Certainly, it was not a white Christmas in the tropical climate of Honduras However, this small fact did not deter carolers from raising their voices ir praise at Soto Cano Air Base, Honduras. Nor did it stop the U.S. soldiers airmen and Marines from planning Christmas parties for the abundance of orphanages in the surrounding areas, bringing smiles to more than 500 boys and girls with no families to care for them.

Dancing and service-specific parties provided many with an opportunity to dress up in their holiday finest for the season at Soto Cano AB Christmas tree lighting ceremonies and a holiday Army vs. Air Force softball game added icing to the holiday festivities, kicking off the festive season

son.

Church-goers dressed up for chapel services in honor of the reason for the season. The dining facility put on a grand showing of a holiday feas for those hungry for as close to a home-cooked meal as they'd have the opportunity to have here. Barbecues and watching Christmas-day footbal games were not forgotten American traditions of spending the day even ir Honduras. Calls back home to the States tied up the phone lines in the evening as many wished their stateside family and friends happy holidays

Christmas



The carolers, members of the chapel congregation, strolled all personnel.

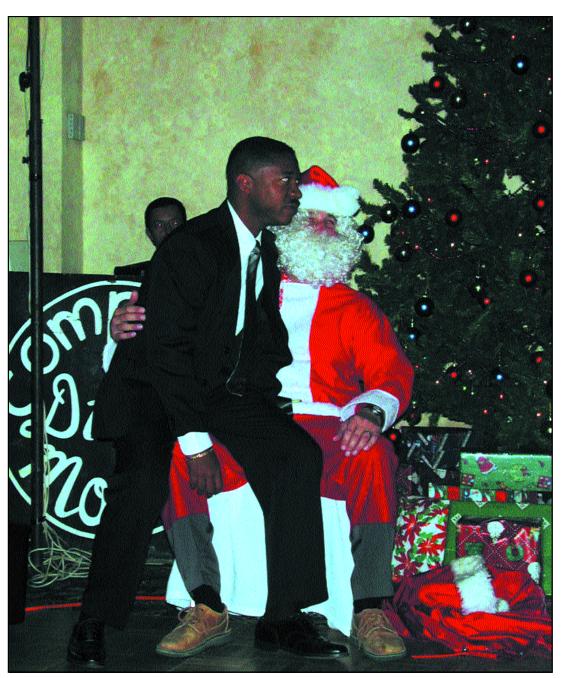
Honduran Christmas captures one of those lifetime moments that not y U.S. citizens can ever claim experiencing. It is truly a once-in-ame opportunity for most of the military personnel stationed here. nes, soldiers and airmen alike took timeout on Christmas day to d time with other comrades-in-arms stationed overseas to enjoy the tal significance of the warm and windy day together, uniting them as is and as a military family of brothers and sisters.

ome fortunate souls here were able to spend Christmas day with their lies, either Honduran or American, many who flew the long journey colder parts of the United States to enjoy a tropical-style Christmas their loved ones.

ue to our military roots, regardless of service at this joint task force, ven the holiday season stops U.S. service members deployed over-from providing for and showing our neighbors that we care about welfare, too, even though we are all so far from our own homes and lies. Not even missing the holidays with our families and friends nor esickness can stop dedicated U.S. military men and women from misaccomplishment.

nese are the men and women, who even on Christmas, are ready to dly serve their country and our other international brothers and sismound the world.

-photos by Martin Chahin, 1st Lt. Kim Garbett, and SPC Jeremy Heckler



Master Sgt. Ricardo Morgan tells Santa Claus what he wants for Christmas at the AFFOR Christmas Party held at the Princess Hotel in Tegucigalpa Dec. 16.



A Honduran girl takes a swing at the piñata during the MEDEL Christmas Party with local orphans.

Airmen help build church, community in El Encinal



Senior Master Sgt. Bob Jenkins, fire department, goes to work on a door.

By SPC Jeremy Heckler Iguana Editor

In a small community in the mountains of Honduras, a church is slowly rising, a testament to a small group of airmen who are adding to the unity of the village.

Members of Joint Task Force-Bravo donate their time, money and materials to the village of El Encinal as they build a chapel. The airmen have donated clothing, shoes, food as well as a bed and wheelchairs for some of the less fortunate.

The work done at El Encinal was started through the efforts of Staff Sgt. Charlie Holmes, and has been continued by Chief Master Sgt. Steven Jones of AFFOR.

"The first time I met Charlie Holmes, he was a DJ here and he went with me to the mountains," said Nathaniel Guerrero, manager of The Oasis Club and a pastor at El Encinal. "We went every Monday and started to construct the church in February."

"My first trip to El Encinal was in June, and I was just trying to get off base with Staff Sgt. Charlie Holmes," said Jones. "After visiting once and seeing what was needed and the warmth of the people, I was hooked."

Holmes, Jones and others returned to add to the church, building walls and a roof. After Holmes rotated home, Jones and Senior Master Sgt. Bob Jenkins of the Fire Department took over the project. With each return trip, the airmen noticed more support from the community

nity.

"At first, they would just sit and watch from the windows but by the time we were halfway done, they started helping," said Jones. "Now when we go up, they pitch in and help."

Their most recent project involved building windows for the chapel.

To build the windows, Jones, Jenkins of the Fire Dawgs, Senior Master Sgt. Richard Roberts, Staff Sgt. Lanis Williams and a crew of assorted volunteers de-



Photos by SPC Jeremy Heckle

Tech Sgt. Victor Harris and another airmen screw in hinges for the windows. The windows are part of a construction project in the village of El Encinal. The volunteers recently placed seven windows into the church at El Encinal, Honduras.

pended on the generosity of others.

"I used my wood project to help build the windows and others helped donate wood and build," said Jones. He added that many people at the base wood shop pitched in and helped him as he came to cut wood or would give him advice.

"Most of the time I go there and cut wood and the folks will ask what I'm doing; then they'll ask how they can help and throw a few boards of their own in," said Jones.

Construction of the windows was delayed while Jones recovered from surgery, pushing back the installation to just before Christmas.

The airmen have also benefited from MWR, who donated their unusable wood to the effort. Their work turned into an early Christmas present, courtesy of the Air Force.

"Things turned out very good, especially because we were able to make it a Christmas present from us," said Jones.

"The help from Soto Cano has been a great blessing," said Guerrero.

"The gospel is progressing in the community and getting to be sound," he said.

"Before the group came here their were drunks, and reports of shootings and robberies. Now a lot of that has stopped and the community is becoming quiet," said Guerrero.

"With the villagers doing more of the work, it means that it's now their church. They have taken ownership of it," said Jones. "Eventually, they'll take more responsibility and our responsibility will decrease."

Guerrero said that more villages are requesting support for similar projects.

Right now, the airmen are just concentrating on the next project.

"I would like to see doors on the church as well as pews and benches," said Jones. Currently the parishioners must make do, sitting on boards resting on cinder blocks

Still, the growth in the community shows in the foundation the airmen laid.



Chief Master Sgt. Steven Jones, AFFOR, checks the fit on the doors for the windows they've constructed.

JTE-Bravo

Dec. 29, 2000

Air Force grounds Army 23-16 for bragging rights

By SPC Jeremy Heckler Iguana Editor

Air Force bats rocked the Army, 23-16, capturing the Army-Air Force softball title Dec. 13 at the softball complex here.

"We haven't lost since '97," said Don Covert, Air Force coach. Many of the airmen cited redemption for their defeat in football two weeks before as incentive to beat Army.

"This is vindication from the Turkey Bowl, we had the pressure on our back and we came through," said Shame Hansen of the Air Force team

The game started out as an old-fashioned shootout with the airmen jumping out to a 3-0 lead on the bats of Hansen and Doug Cooper.

In the bottom half of the first inning, the Army responded with back-to-back homeruns by Robert Falasco and John Kunstbeck tying the game at three apiece.

The airmen blew the game open in the third inning as a single by Bob Jenkins and Rico Montellanos scored three. The airmen hustled for each run, taking extra bases on singles. Three more doubles and a sacrifice fly staked the lead at seven for the airmen.

Harris helped the ground pounders cut the lead to five with a tworun homerun. In the bottom of the next inning, the Army shaved another run off the lead.

"This was the turning point of the game for us," said Covert. "They had two outs and a five run lead and we just got a few key hits and turned the game around."

The airmen continued to answer the call with their bats as Bullock tripled in one and Hansen scored another run, adding three to the scoreboard. Then Cooper came up and cranked one into the Honduran night. Randy Thacker singled in one more, giving the airmen a 15-6 lead. The Army scrapped one run back but Montellanos' single in the bottom half of the inning brought it back.

Army fought back in the sixth inning, as Richard Jessup singled in one and David Prymula scored three more on a base-loaded triple, cutting the lead to three.

Air Force got the runs back in the next inning. An Army throwing error led to two runs scoring. A single by Thacker added another run, giving the team an insurmountable ten-run lead in the seventh inning

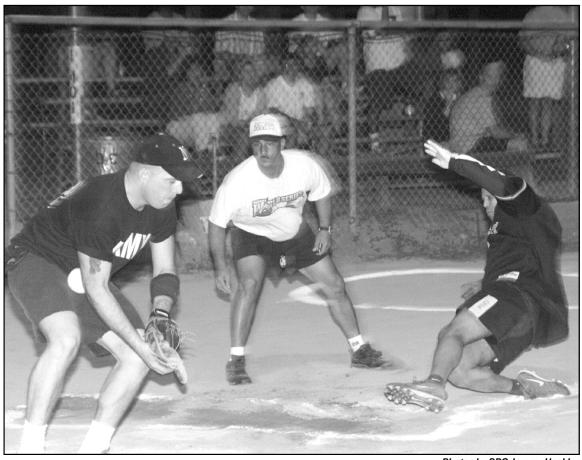
Marty Martin and Prymula's late seventh inning rally cut the lead, but it wasn't enough for the win.

"The Army put in a good effort but we were too strong," said Hansen

"We consistently hit the ball, and if you score 25 runs you are going to win," said Cooper. "We jumped on them early and never let up."



Army's Robert Falasco swings for the fence.



Photos by SPC Jeremy Heckler

Rico Montellanos of Air Force slides in as the ball eats up Army's catcher.

Soto Cano TV Channel Guide			
CH 02 03 04 05 06 07 08 09	Station Commander's Channel AFRTS AFRTS AFRTS AFRTS ABC (Nashville) CBS (Erie, PA)	CH 33 34 35 36 37 38 39	Station HGTV Weather Channel MTV2 Discovery Chl-West TLC Tech TV Romance Classics
09 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27	NBC (New York) ABC (Pittsburgh) CBS (Pittsburgh) NBC (Pittsburgh) NBC Fox (Miami) WGN TBS WWOR WPIX CNN H/N CNN CNN F/N Fox News ESPN ESPN2 ESPN Classic TNN TNT	40 41 42 43 44 45 46 47 48 49 50 51 52 53 54 55 56 57 58	HBO-East HBO-West HBO Signature Showtime-East Showtime-West Starz-East Starz Theater Cinemax-East Cinemax-West The Movie Channel-East Lifetime Movie Network Sundance Encore-East Flix BET Movie Galavision HTV Telemundo Honduras Local 3/7
28 29 30 31 32	USA-East BET FX Sci Fi Westerns	59 60 61 62 95 99	Honduras Local 33 Honduras Local 5 Honduras Hondured Univision Pay-Per-View Pay-Per-View (Spcl Evts)

BRIEFS

Skypark at Oasis Club
Department of Defense band Skypark is scheduled to rock The Oasis Club with their fast pop rock beat Dec. 31, Jan. 2, and Jan. 3. The doors open at 8 p.m.

Kickoff the New Year

Kickoff the New Year at The Oasis Club. There will be three DJs, costume contests, an egg toss, pie eating contests as well as raffles throughout the night. Doors open at 8 p.m. Dec. 31.

Upper division

college courses
The Education Center is requiring early tuition assistance (TA) reservations ASAP for those military personnel who want to enroll in upper level college courses (300-400 level). In the past, every upper level course offered was cancelled due to lack of payment/commitment by students. The following courses are possible, no guarantee, depending upon how many pay 25 percent up front before classes are confirmed for the January term. Early enrollment is key to ensure those classes are offered as soon as pos-

Business Management courses: 320 (Government Accounting), 364 (Management & Organization Theory), 370 (Advanced Management)

Computer Science courses: 300 (Computer Data), 304 (Ethical Issues in Information Systems), 310 (Software/Hardware Concepts), 320 (Office Automation), 370 (Data Communications), 410 (Database Concepts), 430 (Information Systems & Security), 450 (Telecommunications Systems in Management).

If you need classes for your degree completion, please follow-up ASAP, or you will not meet the January deadline; some classes have prerequisites. For more information, contact Mo Eckols at ext.4495.

Spanish booklets

The Soto Cano Air Base Education Center has made available for the first time the Spanish immersion beginning/intermediate quick conversational self-prep. Print your own copy, if you wish, by going to (1) My Computer; (2) H- Drive; (3) J-Staff; (4) Education Cen; (5) Conversational Spanish. For those personnel pulling aviation night duty in the 1st Battalion, 228th Aviation Regiment unable to attend Headstart classes, who requested copies for their unit, please ensure personnel are aware of this service, free and available 24 hours a day. For more information, call Mo Eckols at ext. 4495.

Wood shop safety

The wood shop safety class will be held Mondays and Thursdays at 6 p.m. in the base wood shop. The class is mandatory in order to sign for wood.

Warfel takes command of Sugarbears

By 1st Lt. Kim Garbett Public Affairs

The passing of the colors and many bittersweet memories for Company B, 1st Battalion, 228th Aviation Regiment took place Dec. 15 as CPT Doug Lindquist relinquished his command to CPT Brian Warfel, incoming B Company commander.

Emotions ran high amid the crowd gathered in a flightline hanger as a CH-47 Chinook, also sometimes referred to as the "magic school bus," sat proudly silhouetted against the sun-kissed Honduran mountain ranges, symbolic of all that was before and all that is yet to come.

LTC Scott Ciluffo, 1-228th Aviation Regiment Commander, said, "I have always considered the measure of one's life is not how much money they had or the number of toys they accumulated, but rather how profound the impact they made on the lives of those they came in contact with. I have seen the tremendous impact that CPT Lindquist has made (in his fifteen months of command) not just on the Sugarbears, but throughout the entire battalion, JTF-Bravo and the US SOUTHCOM AOR."

In the past 15 months, the Bravo Company at Soto Cano, the "jewel of the Chinook community," touched the lives of many. They have deployed to Venezuela for Operation "Fundamental Response," delivering more than one million pounds of cargo and safely evacuating nearly 3,000 refugees after a hurricane devastated the country in Dec. 1999. The Bravo Company "Sugarbears" delivered 360,000 pounds of food to the Mocoron area of Honduras near the Mosquito Coast. They have also participated in five Central Skies counterdrug missions throughout Central America and assisted in the recovery of millions of marijuana plants destined for sale in the United States. The Sugarbears were a key player in a Honduran UH-1N extraction from a lake, and also conducted water landings and helocast operations with Special Operations Forces. The company has also assisted with bridge span insertions, were instrumental in disaster relief assessments and a key player in home-based major accident response exercises. The list continues and is a long one.

For Warfel and Lindquist, Dec. 15th will be a day long-remembered.



Company B, 1st Battalion, 228th Aviation Regiment commanders past and present, CPT Brian Warfel and CPT Doug Lindquist, flank LTC Scott Ciluffo, battalion commander, and salute the flag during the change of command ceremony held Dec. 15.

"It is with a heavy heart that I relinquish command of the Bravo Company Sugarbears today," Lindquist began. "This has been the most rewarding 15 months of my career and my life. I cannot be more proud of the accomplishments of the soldiers that stand before you and their predecessors before them. We are the smallest Chinook company in the Army, but I guarantee that no other four Chinooks have logged more hours or helped more people doing real-world missions than our four here at Soto Cano.

In his address, Lindquist highlighted that Warfel has been blessed with taking command of what Lindquist considered the "best company command in the Army." The Sugarbears are an extremely small company, both it's biggest asset and its greatest liability, Lindquist said.

"You (Warfel) will face many unique challenges in the upcoming year. Somewhere, sometime, and probably when you least expect it, a country in this AOR will need the assistance that only 'the magic school bus' can provide. I have every confidence that you will take the company to the next level and respond to every challenge," said Lindquist.

Warfel, a Minnesota native, has been at Soto Cano for almost a year with the 1-228th as its battalion adjutant. Warfel was a prior-service communications specialist and is a veteran of both Desert Storm and Bosnia. He also holds the distinction of having two advanced aircraft qualifications, rated first in the UH-60 Blackhawk and now in the CH-47 Chinook.

'It is a privilege and honor standing before you today taking command of such a fine group of outstanding soldiers," said Warfel. "Not many years ago, I was taking the oath of enlistment...now, here I stand before you, a captain and in charge of the only heavy lift aviation company south of the U.S. border. It is an awesome feeling.'

Warfel went on to say words could not describe how elated he feels on this day. "I want to thank LTC Ciluffo for ... giving me the opportunity to lead the most elite company in his battalion. Sir, you have entrusted me with the ultimate responsibility of the lives and welfare of these 12 soldiers. I will not let you or the Sugarbears

Warfel closed his acceptance of command address with a quote. General Frederick Kroesen said: "A company commander is charged with a sacred trust: the lives of his soldiers, men and women he may be called upon to lead in combat. There's no greater trust that can be bestowed by the American people than a personal responsibility for the lives of their sons and daughters.'



Movie Schedule

For weekend of Dec. 30-31

Saturday, Dec.30 4 p.m. Dr. T and the Women (R)

Saturday, Dec. 317:15 p.m. Women on Top (R)

Sunday, Dec. 31 4 p.m. **Blair Witch Project 2** (PG-13)

Sunday, Dec. 317:15 p.m. Lucky Numbers (R)